



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

09/665,594

09/19/2000

William R. Bullman

BULLMAN 7-26-6

5797

7590

03/08/2006

William H Bollman
Manelli Denison & Selter PLLC
2000 M Street NW
Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036-3307

EXAMINER

PERILLA, JASON M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2638

DATE MAILED: 03/08/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/665,594

Applicant(s)

BULLMAN ET AL.

Examiner

Jason M. Perilla

Art Unit

2638

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 December 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1, and 3-33 are pending in the instant application.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed December 2, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The Applicant argues that the prior art rejections including at least Lechleider et al (US 6091713) do not disclose provisioning of DSL service. The Examiner does not agree. The claimed "provisioning" term, as broadly as claimed, does not provide a particular approach or limitation beyond the prior art. That is, the modem of Lechleider is not provisioned for DSL service as it tests and operates only in the voice band (voice band modem service), and it is provisioned for DSL service as it operates in the DSL band above the voice band (DSL band service). No additional limitation of "provisioning" will be read into the claims from the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 3-7, 12-21, and 26-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lechleider et al (US 6091713; hereafter "Lechleider") in view of Bellenger et al (US 6058110; hereafter "Bellenger").

Regarding claim 1, Lechleider discloses a method for deploying digital subscriber line (DSL) service via an analog modem (col. 2, lines 17-29; col. 3, lines 7-13; "Summary of the Invention") comprising, receiving a subscriber login request (fig. 1, via modem ref. 103; col. 5, lines 47-50) into a network site (fig. 1, ref. 113) via an analog modem (col. 3, lines 33-41), requesting said analog modem to provide test results relating to a suitability of a service line used by the subscriber for supporting DSL service via the analog modem (col. 5, line 50 – col. 6, line 30), and provisioning DSL service on the service line if suitability is determined to support DSL service (col. 7, lines 40-47) wherein said DSL service is automatically qualified for service over a DSL modem. The analog modem must make a subscriber login request to a network site to establish a connection as is understood in the art. Lechleider discloses that after testing a communications line with an analog voice band modem, DSL service may be provisioned by replacing the analog band modem with a DSL band modem (col. 2, lines 57-68) but does not explicitly disclose the use of an analog/DSL modem wherein the combination analog/DSL modem is not provisioned for DSL service until the suitability of the service line is tested. However, Bellenger teaches the use of a modem that operates throughout the voice band and also extended operation above the voice band into the DSL band (col. 2, lines 56-60). Further, Bellenger teaches an analog/DSL modem that determines if the telephone line is capable of operating in the DSL band, and uses the DSL band if the determination is favorable (col. 2, lines 60-67). The analog/DSL modem of Bellenger provides analog service while operating in the analog (voice) band and DSL service while operating in the DSL band (col. 2, lines 57-67).

Art Unit: 2638

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time which the invention was made to use the analog/DSL modem of Bellenger with the method of deploying DSL service of Lechleider because the DSL band modem would be automatically provisioned and qualified for DSL band communications as taught by Bellenger and would advantageously modify the method of Lechleider by removing the step of replacing the analog (voice) band modem with one that operates in the DSL band (a DSL modem).

Further regarding claim 1, in the exemplary combination of Lechleider in view of Bellenger, the method of deploying or provisioning DSL service would still follow the teachings of both references. That is, in each case, an analog (voice) band modem is utilized to provide test results according to the suitability of the service line being tested. During this period, the DSL modem is not used, required, or provisioned. Therefore, in the first steps of the method, DSL service is not provisioned because the service line has not yet passed the tests of suitability. In the case that the suitability of the service line is sufficient to support DSL service, the DSL service may be automatically qualified and implemented by the method of Lechleider in view of Bellenger as claimed.

Regarding claim 3, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 1 as applied above. Further, Lechleider discloses that a network site is accessed via a separate connection to an Internet (fig. 1). It is inherent that by the use of an analog modem, a separate connection to an Internet is created proceeding the subscriber login request.

Regarding claim 4, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 1 as applied above. Further, Lechleider discloses providing at least one of an address and a telephone number to the network site via an analog modem (col. 7, lines 61-67).

Regarding claim 5, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 1 as applied above. Further, Lechleider discloses that determining the suitability of the service line further comprises performing a measurement of at least one parameter of the service line using the analog modem (col. 6, lines 8-29).

Regarding claim 6, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 5 as applied above. Further, Lechleider discloses that the performing of a measurement further comprises measuring the amplitude of a signal transmitted over the service line (col. 6, line 13-14). It is inherent in the process of measuring RX/TX power that a measurement of amplitude is made.

Regarding claim 7, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 5 as applied above. Further, Lechleider discloses that the performing of a measurement further comprises measuring a return echo over the service line (col. 6, lines 24-25).

Regarding claim 12, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 1 as applied above. Further Lechleider discloses making a list of subscribers that are approved for service (col. 7, lines 40-41). The limitation including informing a subscriber that DSL service is not available when the service line is determined to not support DSL service is obvious in view of the utility of the DSL loop characterization as

Art Unit: 2638

disclosed by Lechleider. Because the purpose of the method disclosed by Lechleider is to determine the availability of DSL service on a telephone loop for a subscriber, it is obvious that if the service is found to be unavailable, the subscriber would be notified.

Regarding claim 13, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 12 as applied above. The limitation including informing a subscriber why DSL service is unavailable is obvious in view of the telephone loop testing as performed by Lechleider. The utility of carefully characterizing the potential DSL telephone loop as described by Lechleider is provided by the knowledge of why the DSL service can or can not be provided. Therefore, it would be obvious to provide this information to a potential subscriber, because a reason for the unavailability of the service is known by the method, and the potential subscriber may request the reasoning of the unfavorable service determination.

Regarding claim 14, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 1 as applied above. Further, Bellenger discloses that the DSL modem is selected (col. 2, lines 56-67).

Regarding claim 15, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 14 as applied above. Troubleshooting the installed DSL service by having the analog modem portion of the combination analog/DSL modem to re-determine the suitability of the service line is not explicitly stated by Lechleider in view of Bellenger. However, if the method using an analog/DSL modem to determine suitability of a telephone loop for DSL transmissions is suitable, then it would be obvious to utilize the analog modem to troubleshoot the DSL telephone loop once service is activated

because the method was used to troubleshoot the connection before service was started, and it is still available to troubleshoot the connection after the service was started. For instance, if the connection was lost, the analog portion of the modem would "troubleshoot" or attempt to reconnect (Bellenger; fig. 9; col. 11, lines 7-15), and it would re-determine the suitability of the service line. The process of re-determining the service line characteristics as shown in figure 9 of Bellenger is performed without the disconnection/reconnection of either the voice band or DSL band modem because they are combined into one modem.

Regarding claim 16, Lechleider discloses a computer program product for deploying digital subscriber line (DSL) services via an analog modem (col. 2, lines 17-29; col. 3, lines 7-13). The computer program product comprises a computer usable medium having computer readable program code thereon, including program code for logging into a network site via an analog modem (col. 3, lines 33-41) and program code for determining a suitability of a service line for DSL services via the analog modem (col. 7, lines 40-41). The analog modem must make a subscriber login request to a network site to establish a connection as is understood in the art. Lechleider discloses that the analog modem may be contained in a personal computer (col. 4, lines 35-36). It is inherent that the computer program product comprises computer usable medium in the form of some type of memory (i.e. RAM, ROM, HDD) that is readable by the computer. As understood by one in the art, the program product code may be also present in the modem itself in the form of firmware contained on computer readable medium such as the ROM of the modem. It is inherent that a modem also contains a

Art Unit: 2638

program product. Lechleider discloses that after testing a communications line with a voice band modem, it could be replaced with a DSL band modem (col. 2, lines 57-68) but does not explicitly disclose the use of an analog/DSL modem wherein the combination analog/DSL modem supports analog service to a subscriber and DSL from a DSL service provider to said subscriber. However, Bellenger teaches the use of a modem that operates throughout the voice band and also extended operation above the voice band for DSL (col. 2, lines 56-60). Further, Bellenger teaches an analog/DSL modem that determines if the telephone line is capable of operating in the DSL band, and program code for installing DSL services if the DSL band determination is favorable (col. 2, lines 60-67). Since control of the modem is accommodated by the program code, it is the program code that enacts and installs the DSL service by the selection of the DSL modem. The analog/DSL modem of Bellenger provides analog service while operating in the analog (voice) band and DSL service while operating in the DSL band (col. 2, lines 57-67). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time which the invention was made to combine the analog/DSL modem and program code to install the DSL service of Bellenger with the DSL suitability determination program product of Lechleider, for at least the reasons applied to claim 1 above, and because the DSL band modem would be immediately available for DSL band communications as taught by Bellenger and would advantageously modify program product of Lechleider by removing the step of replacing the analog (voice) band modem with one that operates in the DSL band (a DSL modem).

Regarding claim 17, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 16 as applied above. Further, Lechleider discloses program code for accessing the network site via a separate connection to an Internet (fig. 1). It is inherent that by the use of an analog modem, a separate connection to an Internet is created proceeding the subscriber login request.

Regarding claim 18, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 16 as applied above. Further, Lechleider discloses program code for providing at least one of an address and a telephone number to the network site via an analog modem (col. 7, lines 61-67).

Regarding claim 19, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclosed the limitations of claim 16 as applied above. Further, Lechleider discloses program code for directing the analog portion of the modem to measure at least one parameter of the service (col. 6, lines 8-29).

Regarding claim 20, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 19 as applied above. Further, Lechleider discloses that at least one parameter comprises an amplitude of a signal transmitted over the service line (col. 6, line 13-14). It is inherent in the process of measuring RX/TX power that a measurement of amplitude is made.

Regarding claim 21, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 19 as applied above. Further, Lechleider discloses that the at least one parameter comprises a return echo over the service line (col. 6, lines 24-25).

Regarding claim 26, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 16 as applied above. Further, Bellenger discloses program code to select the DSL modem (col. 2, lines 56-67). It is inherent that the DSL modem is selected by program code controlling the operation of the modem.

Regarding claim 27, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 27 as applied to claim 1 above.

Regarding claim 28, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 27 as applied above. Further, Lechleider discloses that the parameter test module is adapted to measure the amplitude of a signal transmitted over the service line (col. 6, line 13-14). It is inherent in the process of measuring RX/TX power that a measurement of amplitude is made.

Regarding claim 29, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 27 as applied above. Further, Lechleider discloses that the parameter test module is adapted to measure a return echo over the service line (col. 6, lines 24-25).

5. Claims 8-11, 22-25, and 30-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lechleider in view of Bellenger as applied to claims 5, 19, and 27 above, and further in view of Vogt, III et al (US 5625667; hereafter "Vogt").

Regarding claim 8, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 5 as applied above. Lechleider in view of Bellenger do not disclose that performing the measurement of claim 5 further comprises measuring a tip voltage of the service line. However, Vogt teaches that the tip and the ring voltage can be measured to calculate the capacitance and resistance of the telephone line (abstract; col. 4, lines

Art Unit: 2638

3-16). Further, Vogt teaches that the telephone operating company would want to measure the parameters of a telephone line to detect potential problems (col. 1, lines 38-41). Calculating the resistance and capacitance of the telephone line by measuring the tip and ring voltages is beneficial to characterizing the quality of the telephone line connection, and it is applicable to characterizing the quality of the telephone line for DSL communication. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time which the invention was made to take the measurements of tip and ring voltage for measuring the resistance and capacitance of the telephone loop as taught by Vogt in the combination of Lechleider in view of Bellenger because the measurements are applicable to assessing the quality of the telephone loop for DSL communications.

Regarding claim 9, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 5 as applied above. Lechleider in view of Bellenger does not disclose that performing the measurement of claim 5 further comprises measuring a ring voltage of the service line. However, Vogt teaches that the tip and the ring voltage can be measured to calculate the capacitance and resistance of the telephone line (abstract; col. 4, lines 3-16). Further, Vogt teaches that the telephone operating company would want to measure the parameters of a telephone line to detect potential problems (col. 1, lines 38-41). Calculating the resistance and capacitance of the telephone line by measuring the tip and ring voltages is beneficial to characterizing the quality of the telephone line connection, and it is applicable to characterizing the quality of the telephone line for DSL communication. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one

Art Unit: 2638

having ordinary skill in the art at the time which the invention was made to take the measurements of tip and ring voltage for measuring the resistance and capacitance of the telephone loop as taught by Vogt in the combination of Lechleider in view of Bellenger because the measurements are applicable to assessing the quality of the telephone loop for DSL communications.

Regarding claim 10, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 5 as applied above. Lechleider in view of Bellenger do not disclose that performing the measurement of claim 5 further comprises measuring a capacitance of the service line. However, Vogt teaches that the tip and the ring voltage can be measured to calculate the capacitance and resistance of the telephone line (abstract; col. 4, lines 3-16). Further, Vogt teaches that the telephone operating company would want to measure the parameters of a telephone line to detect potential problems (col. 1, lines 38-41). Calculating the resistance and capacitance of the telephone line by measuring the tip and ring voltages is beneficial to characterizing the quality of the telephone line connection, and it is applicable to characterizing the quality of the telephone line for DSL communication. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time which the invention was made to take the measurements of tip and ring voltage for measuring the resistance and capacitance of the telephone loop as taught by Vogt in the combination of Lechleider in view of Bellenger because the measurements are applicable to assessing the quality of the telephone loop for DSL communications.

Regarding claim 11, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclosed the limitations of claim 5 as applied above. Lechleider in view of Bellenger do not disclose that performing the measurement of claim 5 further comprises measuring the impedance of the service line. However, Vogt teaches that the tip and the ring voltage can be measured to calculate the capacitance and resistance of the telephone line (abstract; col. 4, lines 3-16). Further, Vogt teaches that the telephone operating company would want to measure the parameters of a telephone line to detect potential problems (col. 1, lines 38-41). Calculating the resistance and capacitance of the telephone line by measuring the tip and ring voltages is beneficial to characterizing the quality of the telephone line connection, and it is applicable to characterizing the quality of the telephone line for DSL communication. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time which the invention was made to take the measurements of tip and ring voltage for measuring the resistance and capacitance, and hence the impedance, of the telephone loop as taught by Vogt in the combination of Lechleider in view of Bellenger because the measurements are applicable to assessing the quality of the telephone loop for DSL communications.

Regarding claim 22, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 19 as applied above. Lechleider in view of Bellenger do not disclose that the at least one parameter comprises a tip voltage of the service line. However, Vogt teaches that the tip and the ring voltage can be measured to calculate the capacitance and resistance of the telephone line (abstract; col. 4, lines 3-16). Further, Vogt teaches that the telephone operating company would want to measure the parameters of a

Art Unit: 2638

telephone line to detect potential problems (col. 1, lines 38-41). Calculating the resistance and capacitance of the telephone line by measuring the tip and ring voltages is beneficial to characterizing the quality of the telephone line connection, and it is applicable to characterizing the quality of the telephone line for DSL communication. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time which the invention was made to take the measurements of tip and ring voltage for measuring the resistance and capacitance of the telephone loop as taught by Vogt in the combination of Lechleider in view of Bellenger because the measurements are applicable to assessing the quality of the telephone loop for DSL communications.

Regarding claim 23, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclosed the limitations of claim 19 as applied above. Lechleider in view of Bellenger do not disclose that the at least one parameter comprises a ring voltage of the service line. However, Vogt teaches that the tip and the ring voltage can be measured to calculate the capacitance and resistance of the telephone line (abstract; col. 4, lines 3-16). Further, Vogt teaches that the telephone operating company would want to measure the parameters of a telephone line to detect potential problems (col. 1, lines 38-41). Calculating the resistance and capacitance of the telephone line by measuring the tip and ring voltages is beneficial to characterizing the quality of the telephone line connection, and it is applicable to characterizing the quality of the telephone line for DSL communication. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time which the invention was made to take the measurements of tip and ring voltage for measuring the resistance and capacitance of the telephone loop as taught by Vogt in

Art Unit: 2638

the combination of Lechleider in view of Bellenger because the measurements are applicable to assessing the quality of the telephone loop for DSL communications.

Regarding claim 24, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 19 as applied above. Lechleider in view of Bellenger do not disclose that the at least one parameter comprises a capacitance of the service line. However, Vogt teaches that the tip and the ring voltage can be measured to calculate the capacitance and resistance of the telephone line (abstract; col. 4, lines 3-16). Further, Vogt teaches that the telephone operating company would want to measure the parameters of a telephone line to detect potential problems (col. 1, lines 38-41). Calculating the resistance and capacitance of the telephone line by measuring the tip and ring voltages is beneficial to characterizing the quality of the telephone line connection, and it is applicable to characterizing the quality of the telephone line for DSL communication. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time which the invention was made to take the measurements of tip and ring voltage for measuring the resistance and capacitance of the telephone loop as taught by Vogt in the combination of Lechleider in view of Bellenger because the measurements are applicable to assessing the quality of the telephone loop for DSL communications.

Regarding claim 25, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclosed the limitations of claim 19 as applied above. Lechleider in view of Bellenger do not disclose that the at least one parameter comprises an impedance of the service line. However, Vogt teaches that the tip and the ring voltage can be measured to calculate the capacitance and resistance of the telephone line (abstract; col. 4, lines 3-16). Further, Vogt teaches

Art Unit: 2638

that the telephone operating company would want to measure the parameters of a telephone line to detect potential problems (col. 1, lines 38-41). Calculating the resistance and capacitance of the telephone line by measuring the tip and ring voltages is beneficial to characterizing the quality of the telephone line connection, and it is applicable to characterizing the quality of the telephone line for DSL communication. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time which the invention was made to take the measurements of tip and ring voltage for measuring the resistance and capacitance, and hence the impedance, of the telephone loop as taught by Vogt in the combination of Lechleider in view of Bellenger because the measurements are applicable to assessing the quality of the telephone loop for DSL communications.

Regarding claim 30, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 27 as applied above. Lechleider in view of Bellenger do not disclose that the parameter test module is adapted to test a tip voltage of the service line. However, Vogt teaches that the tip and the ring voltage can be measured to calculate the capacitance and resistance of the telephone line (abstract; col. 4, lines 3-16). Further, Vogt teaches that the telephone operating company would want to measure the parameters of a telephone line to detect potential problems (col. 1, lines 38-41). Calculating the resistance and capacitance of the telephone line by measuring the tip and ring voltages is beneficial to characterizing the quality of the telephone line connection, and it is applicable to characterizing the quality of the telephone line for DSL communication. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill

Art Unit: 2638

in the art at the time which the invention was made to take the measurements of tip and ring voltage for measuring the resistance and capacitance of the telephone loop as taught by Vogt in the combination of Lechleider in view of Bellenger because the measurements are applicable to assessing the quality of the telephone loop for DSL communications.

Regarding claim 31, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 27 as applied above. Lechleider in view of Bellenger do not disclose that the parameter test module is adapted to test a ring voltage of the service line. However, Vogt teaches that the tip and the ring voltage can be measured to calculate the capacitance and resistance of the telephone line (abstract; col. 4, lines 3-16). Further, Vogt teaches that the telephone operating company would want to measure the parameters of a telephone line to detect potential problems (col. 1, lines 38-41). Calculating the resistance and capacitance of the telephone line by measuring the tip and ring voltages is beneficial to characterizing the quality of the telephone line connection, and it is applicable to characterizing the quality of the telephone line for DSL communication. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time which the invention was made to take the measurements of tip and ring voltage for measuring the resistance and capacitance of the telephone loop as taught by Vogt in the combination of Lechleider in view of Bellenger because the measurements are applicable to assessing the quality of the telephone loop for DSL communications.

Regarding claim 32, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclose the limitations of claim 27 as applied above. Lechleider in view of Bellenger do not disclose that the parameter test module is adapted to test a capacitance of the service line. However, Vogt teaches that the tip and the ring voltage can be measured to calculate the capacitance and resistance of the telephone line (abstract; col. 4, lines 3-16). Further, Vogt teaches that the telephone operating company would want to measure the parameters of a telephone line to detect potential problems (col. 1, lines 38-41). Calculating the resistance and capacitance of the telephone line by measuring the tip and ring voltages is beneficial to characterizing the quality of the telephone line connection, and it is applicable to characterizing the quality of the telephone line for DSL communication. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time which the invention was made to take the measurements of tip and ring voltage for measuring the resistance and capacitance of the telephone loop as taught by Vogt in the combination of Lechleider in view of Bellenger because the measurements are applicable to assessing the quality of the telephone loop for DSL communications.

Regarding claim 32, Lechleider in view of Bellenger disclosed the limitations of claim 27 as applied above. Lechleider in view of Bellenger do not disclose that the parameter test module is adapted to test an impedance of the service line. However, Vogt teaches that the tip and the ring voltage can be measured to calculate the capacitance and resistance of the telephone line (abstract; col. 4, lines 3-16). Further, Vogt teaches that the telephone operating company would want to measure the

Art Unit: 2638

parameters of a telephone line to detect potential problems (col. 1, lines 38-41).

Calculating the resistance and capacitance of the telephone line by measuring the tip and ring voltages is beneficial to characterizing the quality of the telephone line connection, and it is applicable to characterizing the quality of the telephone line for DSL communication. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time which the invention was made to take the measurements of tip and ring voltage for measuring the resistance and capacitance, and hence the impedance, of the telephone loop as taught by Vogt in the combination of Lechleider in view of Bellenger because the measurements are applicable to assessing the quality of the telephone loop for DSL communications.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. No claims are allowable.

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

Art Unit: 2638

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason M. Perilla whose telephone number is (571) 272-3055. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5 EST.

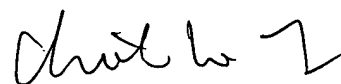
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chieh M. Fan can be reached on (571) 272-3042. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Jason M. Perilla
February 24, 2005

jmp



CHIEH M. FAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER